Amendments to the Claims:

    . This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

    1.   (Previously Presented) A recording apparatus which executes copy control utilizing copy control information which is formed by plural bits of digital data and indicative of plural types of copy control, comprising:

    an electronic watermark detection means which detects predetermined certain bits of digital data in said copy control information out of a content over which an electronic watermark expressing said copy control information is superimposed; and

    a recording means which records said content in accordance with a detection result obtained by said electronic watermark detection means.

    2.   (Previously Presented) The recording apparatus of claim 1 which is an SD apparatus complying with the SDMI control method,

    wherein said copy control information is available in three types of "copy_freely", "copy_one_generation" and "no_more_copy", and

    said predetermined certain bits of digital data expressing "no_more_copy".

    3.   (Previously Presented) The recording apparatus of claim 1 which is a recording apparatus complying with the CPPM control method or the CPRM control method,

    wherein said copy control information is available in three types of "copy_freely", "copy_one_generation" and "no_more_copy", and

    said predetermined certain bits of digital data expressing "no_more_copy".

4.   (Original) The recording apparatus of claim 2, wherein when the detection result obtained by said electronic watermark detection means indicates detection of said "no_more_copy", said recording means does not record said content, and when the detection result obtained by said electronic watermark detection means indicates that said "no_more_copy" is not detected, said recording means records said content.

5.   (Original) The recording apparatus of claim 3, wherein when the detection result obtained by said electronic watermark detection means indicates detection of said "no_more_copy", said recording means does not record said content, and when the detection result obtained by said electronic watermark detection means indicates that said "no_more_copy" is not detected, said recording means records said content.

6.   (Original) The recording apparatus of claim 2, wherein said recording means encrypts and records said content.

7.   (Original) The recording apparatus of claim 1, wherein said content is an audio content.

8-10. (Cancelled)

11.   (Previously Presented) A playback apparatus which executes playback control utilizing copy control information which is indicative of plural types of copy control, comprising:

an electronic watermark detection means which do not detect said copy control information out of an SDMI-protected content recorded by an SD apparatus complying with an SDMI control method when said content is to be played back, but when an SDMI-unprotected content, which is a content other than said SDMI-protected content, is to be played back, detects a predetermined copy control information portion of said copy control information out of said content over which an electronic watermark expressing said copy control information is superimposed; and

a playback means which plays back said content when playback of said SDMI-protected content is desired, and play back said content in accordance with a detection result obtained by said electronic watermark detection means when playback of said SDMI-unprotected content is

desired.

12.   (Previously Presented) The playback apparatus of claim 11 wherein said copy control information is available in three types of "copy_freely", "copy_one_generation" and "no_more_copy", and

said predetermined copy control information portion is "no_more_copy".

13.   (Previously Presented) The playback apparatus of claim 12 wherein when playback of said SDMI-unprotected content is desired, said playback means does not play back said content if the detection result obtained by said electronic watermark detection means indicates detection of said "no_more_copy", but said playback means plays back said content if the detection result obtained by said electronic watermark detection means indicates that said "no_more_copy" is not detected.

14.   (Previously Presented) The playback apparatus of claim 11 wherein said content is an audio content.

15.   (Previously Presented) A multi-function apparatus which executes copy control utilizing copy control information which is indicative of plural types of copy control, comprising:

electronic watermark detection means which detects copy control information out of a content over which an electronic watermark expressing said copy control information is superimposed;

recording means which records said content in accordance with a detection result obtained by said electronic watermark detection means;

playback means which plays back said content in accordance with a detection result obtained by said electronic watermark detection means,

wherein for recording of said content, said electronic watermark detection means detects a predetermined copy control information portion of said copy control information out of a content over which an electronic watermark expressing said copy control information is

superimposed, and

for playback of said content, said electronic watermark detection means detects all of said copy control information out of a content over which an electronic watermark expressing said copy control information is superimposed.

16.   (Previously Presented) A recording means which executes copy control utilizing copy control information which is formed by plural bits of digital data and indicative of plural types of copy control, comprising:

an electronic watermark detection step which detects predetermined certain bits of digital data in said copy control information out of a content over which an electronic watermark expressing said copy control information is superimposed; and

a recording step which records said content in accordance with a detection result obtained by said electronic watermark detection means.

17.   (Previously Presented) A playback method of executing playback control utilizing copy control information which is indicative of plural types of copy control, comprising:

an electronic watermark detecting step at which when an SDMI-protected content recorded by an SD apparatus complying with the SDMI control method is to be played back, detection of said copy control information out of said content is not performed, and when an SDMI-unprotected content, which is a content other than said SDMI-protected content, is to be played back, a predetermined copy control information portion of said copy control information is detected out of said content over which an electronic watermark expressing said copy control information is superimposed; and

a playing back step at which said content is played back when playback of said SDMI-protected content is desired, and when playback of said SDMI-unprotected content is desired, said content is played back in accordance with a detection result obtained by said electronic watermark detection means.

18.   (Previously Presented) A recording/playback method for use in a multi-function apparatus which executes copy control utilizing copy control information which is indicative of plural types of copy control, comprising:

an electronic watermark detecting step detecting copy control information out of a content over which an electronic watermark expressing said copy control information is superimposed;

a recording step recording said content in accordance with a detection result obtained by said electronic watermark detection means; and

a playing back step playing back said content in accordance with a detection result obtained by said electronic watermark detection means,

wherein when recording of said content is desired, at said electronic watermark detecting step, a predetermined copy control information portion of said copy control information is detected out of a content over which an electronic watermark expressing said copy control information is superimposed, and

when playing back of said content is desired, at said electronic watermark detection step, all of said copy control information is detected out of a content over which an electronic watermark expressing said copy control information is superimposed.

19.   (Previously Presented) A recording medium which can be processed on a computer and which holds a program of the recording apparatus of claim 1, said recording medium makes a computer function as:

a part of an electronic watermark detection means which detects predetermined certain bits of digital data in said copy control information out of a content over which an electronic watermark expressing said copy control information is superimposed; and

a part of a recording means which records said content in accordance with a detection result obtained by said electronic watermark detection means.

20.   (Previously Presented) A recording medium which can be processed on a computer and which holds a program of the playback apparatus of claim 11, said recording medium makes a computer function as:

an electronic watermark detection means which does not detect said copy control information out of an SDMI-protected content recorded by an SD apparatus complying with the SDMI control method when such a content is to be played back, but when an SDMI-unprotected content, which is a content other than said SDMI-protected content, is to be played back, detects a predetermined copy control information portion of said copy control information out of said content over which an electronic watermark expressing said copy control information is superimposed; and

a part of a playback means which plays back said content when playback of said SDMI-protected content is desired, and plays back said content in accordance with a detection result obtained by said electronic watermark detection means when playback of said SDMI-unprotected content is desired.
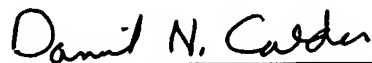
21.   (Currently Amended) A recording medium which can be processed on a computer and which holds a program of the multi-function apparatus of claim ~~14~~15, said recording medium makes a computer function as:

an electronic watermark detection means which detects copy control information out of a content over which an electronic watermark expressing said copy control information is superimposed;

a part of a recording means which records said content in accordance with a detection result obtained by said electronic watermark detection means; and

a part of a playback means which plays back said content in accordance with a detection result obtained by said electronic watermark detection means.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: September 14, 2005

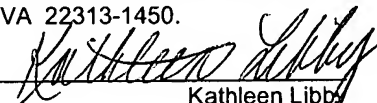P.O. Box 980
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